

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT[441]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)"b."

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of 2009 Iowa Acts, House File 64, section 5, the Department of Human Services proposes to amend Chapter 58, "Emergency Assistance," Iowa Administrative Code.

The proposed amendments adopt a new division intended to implement the Iowa Unmet Needs Disaster Grant Program (IUNDGP). This new program provides state assistance to address unmet disaster-related expenses that cannot be met by other financial assistance. The program provides for reimbursement for repair or replacement of personal property, home repair, mental health services, food assistance, child care, and temporary housing to households whose income is less than 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. The amount of assistance available to a household is capped at \$2,500.

The program is administered by the Department of Human Services in coordination with the Recovery Iowa Office and local Long-Term Recovery Committees established in affected areas. The Long-Term Recovery Committees will receive applications from affected households and will certify the households' residence and unmet disaster-related expenses and determine eligibility for assistance. Department staff will issue notices and payments and process any appeals.

These amendments do not provide for waivers in specified situations, since the changes benefit the households affected. Requests for the waiver of any rule may be submitted under the Department's general rule on exceptions at 441—1.8(17A,217).

These amendments were also Adopted and Filed Emergency and are published herein as **ARC 7603B**. The purpose of this Notice is to solicit comment on that filing, the subject matter of which is incorporated by reference.

Any interested person may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before April 1, 2009. Comments should be directed to Mary Ellen Imlau, Bureau of Policy Analysis and Appeals, Department of Human Services, Hoover State Office Building, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0114. Comments may be sent by fax to (515)281-4980 or by E-mail to policyanalysis@dhs.state.ia.us.

These amendments are intended to implement 2009 Iowa Acts, House File 64, division II.